

NEWS RELEASE

Panhandle

Public Health District

April 22, 2021

For immediate release.

For more information, contact: *Janelle Visser 308-487-3600 ext. 105*

Seventeen Establishments Did Not Sell Tobacco to Minors

The Nebraska State Patrol conducted tobacco compliance checks as part of the Panhandle Prevention Coalition's comprehensive plan to prevent youth from starting to use tobacco products. Officers with the assistance of youth under the age of 18, completed eighteen checks including convenience stores, grocery stores, and liquor stores throughout Scottsbluff County.

Seventeen out of eighteen establishments that were checked did not sell tobacco to minors. The efforts of these seventeen responsible businesses are commended:

- Route 26 Mart-1722 E 20th Place, Scottsbluff
- Kwik Stop #18- 70 E Webster, Morrill
- U Save Mart- 202 W Webster, Morrill
- Old Glory Bait Shop- 290154 Stonegate Road, Minatare
- Dollar General-711 E Webster, Morrill
- Essential Fuel-2309 East Overland Avenue, Scottsbluff
- Family Dollar-1412 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- Cigarette Chain-323 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- East O Watering Hole-503 E Overland, Scottsbluff
- Big Bats-902 W Overland, Scottsbluff
- Western Travel Terminal-822 S Beltline Highway W, Scottsbluff
- The Cigarette Store 0111-118 S Beltline Highway E, Scottsbluff
- Scottsbluff Watering Hole-121 W 27th Street, Scottsbluff
- Walgreens #07383-205 W 27th Street, Scottsbluff
- Pony Express-675 S Kimball Avenue, Gering
- Little Red Liquor-500 Main Street, Gering
- Cyclone Enterprises Inc.-2648 10th Street, Gering

Regrettably, one business checked failed to comply with the law and sold to the underage buyers. This business has been notified and appropriate action has been taken:

- ZY Glam-1127 East Overland Avenue, Scottsbluff

"National research shows that when communities consistently conduct compliance checks and keep failure rates below 10%, children in those communities are less likely to use tobacco

products," stated Janelle Visser, Tobacco Free in the Panhandle Coordinator with Panhandle Public Health District.

Training for alcohol and tobacco retailers is available quarterly at locations throughout the Panhandle. This training, sponsored by Panhandle Prevention Coalition and Nebraska State Patrol, provides individuals entrusted with the responsibility of serving alcohol or selling tobacco with strategies to avoid illegally selling to underage youth or intoxicated patrons. Responsible Beverage Server Training is available for free to retail merchants, owners, and employees across the Panhandle. The next training to be determined for Spring 2021. For more information on the retailer's trainings, go to <http://www.panhandlepartnership.com/training-academy.html>.

Funding for Tobacco Free in the Panhandle is provided by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services/Tobacco Free Nebraska Program as a result of the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

For additional information visit www.pphd.org/tfn.html or call Janelle Visser, Tobacco Free in the Panhandle Coordinator, at Panhandle Public Health District at 308-487-3600 ext 105 or toll free at 866-701-7173. Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community.